



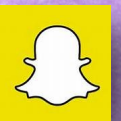
# Vernon Park Church of God

May 2019

*Committed to loving God, loving others and serving others!*



**Rev. Jerald January, Sr. - Senior Pastor**  
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# Vernon Park Church of God

## The Corner of Hope & Possibilities

*A monthly reminder of what's possible!*

### Greetings Family,

The world we live in is an incredible testament to God's creativity and awe. Just one trip across our country by land or air and I cannot help but be moved by the vast colors, textures and variety it displays. The plants and animals thrive without the use of an owner's manual, Supreme Court or political party. It reminds me of the psalmist's observation in **Psalm 104 "How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number - living things both large and small."**

With all the harmony God's creation exhibits it's so unfortunate that His greatest creation "mankind," often falls flat in that area. One writer exclaimed, "The world is so divided by race, religion, ethnic group, church, age group, rich and poor, learned and unschooled...it's basically never-ending." It makes me wonder how humans can be considered "intelligent life."

But the Lord Jesus was sent into the world to reconcile us to one another and to The Father. It's possible in the midst of a newly divided nation an enlightened group of people can emerge united across the boundary lines that are so tenuously stretched before us. Let us rejoice in the truth proclaimed in **Ephesians 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.**

*My Pen is Positioned,*

*Pastor J*



PASTOR OF POSSIBILITIES







# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## *Announcement*



*A Community Supported Agriculture Project of Vernon Park Church of God*



**We are only taking names for  
people interested in farm shares**

***SHAREHOLDERS WILL RECEIVE ALL NATURAL  
PESTICIDE-FREE PRODUCE EVERY OTHER  
WEEK DURING THE 2019 HARVEST SEASON***

***For more information on the Mother Carr's  
Farm Project, please contact the church office  
at 708.753.1975 or visit our website at***

***[vpcog.org](http://vpcog.org)***







# Vernon Park Church of God

## *Responsive Reading*

### **May 5, 2019, Deuteronomy 31:1-8 “Be Strong and Courageous”**

**Lead:** Then Moses went out and spoke these words to all Israel: “I am now a hundred and twenty years old and I am no longer able to lead you. The Lord has said to me, ‘You shall not cross the Jordan.

**Cong:** The Lord your God himself will cross over ahead of you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you will take possession of their land. Joshua also will cross over ahead of you, as the Lord said.

**Lead:** And the Lord will do to them what he did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, whom he destroyed along with their land. The Lord will deliver them to you, and you must do to them all that I have commanded you.

**Cong:** Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

**Lead:** Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, “Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the Lord swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance.

**Together:** The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”



### **MONARCH BUTTERFLY MIGRATION 2019**

The spring migration of Monarch Butterflies from their wintering grounds in Mexico began in early March. Good news! The 2018-2019 reports for the Monarch overwintering populations were positive, and the roosting areas were reported to have increased from the previous year. Once the spring migration is underway, butterfly survival rates depend largely upon the weather that Monarchs encounter during their first month or two in the U.S. According to [MonarchWatch.com](http://MonarchWatch.com) “Returning monarchs that survive into mid-April in Oklahoma will be able to continue moving northeast once the daytime highs reach the lower 70s.” Migrating Monarch butterflies appear in new areas just as the milkweed is starting to grow, perfectly timed so that the females have places to lay their eggs. Known as *host plants*, the female Monarch deposits eggs on milkweed plants, to the exclusion of all other plants, and the caterpillars that emerge feed upon the milkweed, exclusively.



# Vernon Park Church of God

## *Responsive Reading*

**May 12, 2019, 1 Samuel 1:19-28 "A Mother Gives Her Son to the Lord"**

**Lead:** Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the Lord and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked the Lord for him."

**Cong:** When her husband Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vow, Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the Lord, and he will live there always."

**Lead:** "Do what seems best to you," her husband Elkanah told her. "Stay here until you have weaned him; only may the Lord make good his word." So the woman stayed at home and nursed her son until she had weaned him.

**Cong:** After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh.

**Lead:** When the bull had been sacrificed, they brought the boy to Eli, and she said to him, "Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord."

**Together:** I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord." And he worshiped the Lord there.

## Reaching Beyond the Walls

**With PASTOR JERALD JANUARY, SR.**

**SATURDAYS at 8:00 a.m. - Chicago Cable Channel 25**

**City of Chicago**

**MONDAYS at 9:00 p.m. - Comcast Cable Channel 19**

**South Suburbs**

**Online at [www.vpcog.org](http://www.vpcog.org)**



# Vernon Park Church of God

## *Responsive Reading*

**May 19, 2019, John 14:1-13, "Jesus the Way to the Father"**

**Lead:** "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

**Cong:** Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"  
"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

**Lead:** Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

**Cong:** Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.

**Lead:** Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

**Together:** And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.





# Vernon Park Church of God

## *Responsive Reading*

### **May 26, 2019, James 5:12-20 “The Prayer of Faith”**

**Lead:** Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple “Yes” or “No.” Otherwise you will be condemned.

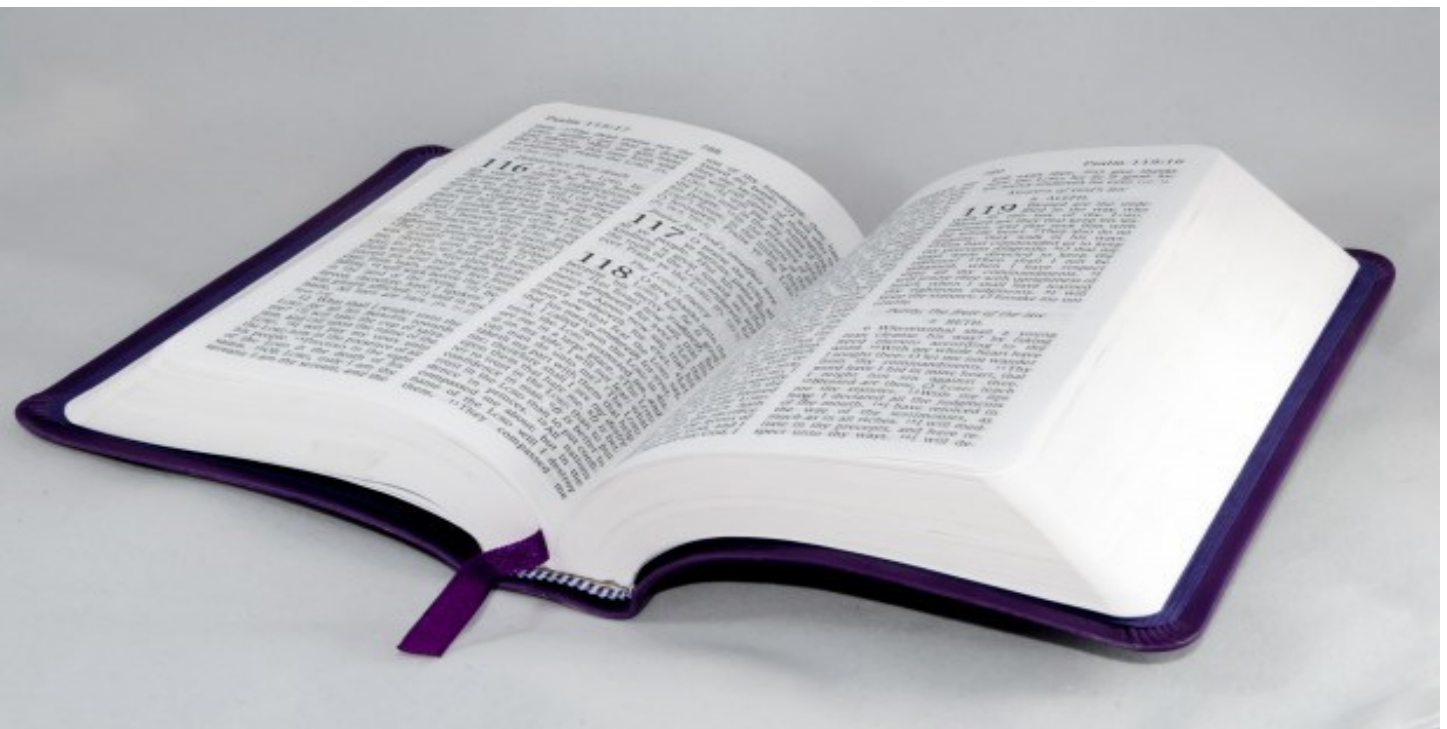
**Cong:** Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.

**Lead:** And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

**Cong:** Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**Lead:** Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

**Together:** My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.







# Vernon Park Church of God

## *Announcements*

### Attention all 2019 Graduates!!!



**Reminder:**

**Scholarship Applications must be postmarked by May 19, 2019**

**Notification of Graduation Forms are due May 19, 2019**

***Forms are on the Watchmen's Table***

**There will be a MANDATORY meeting for all Grads and/or parents in the McKay - Henry Education Wing. You will receive detailed information about the ceremony.**

**Please select one of the following meeting dates:**

**May 19<sup>th</sup> after 10:00 a.m. Service - May 26<sup>th</sup> after 10:00 a.m. Service**

**Any questions see Sister Brenda Williams 773.458.3437  
or Sister Sherri Volious 312.771.8788**



**Scholarship and Education Ministry's**



### **2019 Dollars for Scholars Campaign**



***The donation containers are located on the Watchmen Table in the foyer.***



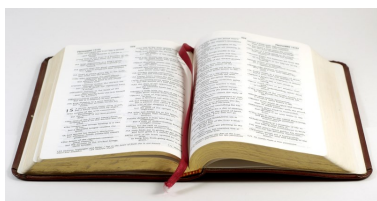


# Vernon Park *Church of God*

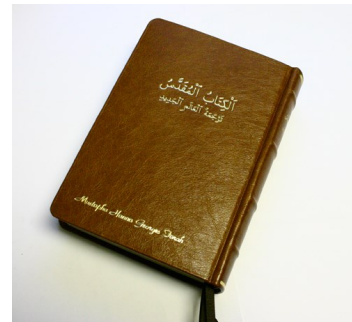
## *Announcements*

**Life Enrichment Institute**

## **Sunday School now open**



**8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**



## *Wedding Anniversaries*

*Marvin and Phyllis Hatcher - 41 years, May 1<sup>st</sup>*

*Wilbur & Arleen Pierce - 56 years, May 5<sup>th</sup>*

*Minister Darwin & Tosha Jackson - 8 years, May 7<sup>th</sup>*

*Jimmie & Gwendolyn Dawson - 43 years, May 8<sup>th</sup>*

*Aubrey & Sherri Volious - 17 years, May 11<sup>th</sup>*

*Victor & Stacy Watts - 25 years, May 14<sup>th</sup>*

*Donald & Dorothy Franklin - 59 years, May 15<sup>th</sup>*

*Randy & Dietta Smith - 44 years, May 24<sup>th</sup>*

*Larry & Gladys Brand - 2 years, May 27<sup>th</sup>*





# Vernon Park *Church of God*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: May 5, 2019*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: May 12, 2019*





# Vernon Park *Church of God*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: May 19, 2019*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: May 26, 2019*



# Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 12th

